



Division of Public Health Services

Office of the Assistant Director

Public Health Preparedness Services

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JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR
SUSAN GERARD, DIRECTOR

November 17, 2006

Dear Vaccines for Children Provider;

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine will be available for you to order through the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program by December 1, 2006. There are also many other changes regarding our vaccine supply, who is eligible to receive certain vaccines, and the method of delivering vaccine to you. Please read the following information which explains the changes in the Arizona VFC program.

Vaccine Updates

HPV (Human Papillomavirus):

- ACIP adopted HPV for the federal VFC program on June 29, 2006.
- CDC finalized a contract to procure the vaccine in early November.
- HPV is a refrigerated vaccine. Refrigerate vaccine between 35-46° F or 2-8° C.
- HPV is a 3 dose series (day 1, 2 months after first dose, 6 months after first dose)
- The minimum interval between doses of the vaccine is 4 weeks between dose 1 and 2; and 12 weeks between dose 2 and 3.
- The series does not need to be restarted if schedule is interrupted.
- The Arizona VFC program will provide vaccine for females 11 through 18 years.
- This vaccine can be administered to persons who are immuno-suppressed.
- It is not recommended for use in pregnancy.
- Lactating women can receive HPV.

MCV4 (Meningococcal Conjugate):

The supply of MCV4 has improved nationally. Effective immediately, providers may administer MCV4 to the following groups of Arizona VFC eligible children:

- Adolescents 11-12 years of age during their adolescent health care visit
- Adolescents 11-18 years of age with HIV
- Adolescents 11-18 years of age with terminal complement pathway deficiencies
- Adolescents 11-18 years of age with anatomic or functional asplenia
- Persons less than 19 years of age who are or about to be college freshmen living in a Dormitory
- Adolescents 11-18 years of age traveling to countries in which *N. meningitidis* is hyper endemic or epidemic, particularly if contact with the local population will be prolonged
- Adolescents at high school entry (aged 15 years) who were not vaccinated at the preadolescent visit
- Persons less than 19 years of age who are or about to be college freshmen living in a Dormitory

Varicella:

- Optimally, a child should receive the first dose at 12-15 months of age and the second dose at 4-6 years of age (i.e., before a child enters kindergarten or first grade).
- Effective immediately, providers may begin administering a catch up dose of varicella to children over 6 years of age or two doses of varicella to children over 6 years of age if the child has not received a previous dose or the child does not have a history of varicella disease.
- Children who receive varicella #1 at less than 13 years of age should receive varicella #2 at least 3 months later. However, if the second dose was administered at least 28 days following the first dose, the second dose does not need to be repeated.
- A second varicella dose is not a requirement for school entry unless the student was 13 years of age or older when varicella #1 was administered. .
- People \geq 13 years of age without evidence of immunity should receive two doses of varicella vaccine at an interval of 4-8 weeks.

Influenza:

- The Vaccine Center is receiving VFC flu vaccine in several small shipments this year.
- There was sizable wastage of flu vaccine during the 2005-2006 flu season because providers were automatically shipped vaccine in December.
- We will ship providers a percentage of their flu vaccine order to ensure that all VFC providers receive some flu vaccine as early as possible.
- Providers will need to reorder if they need more vaccine than originally shipped.
- All children 6 months through 59 months should receive flu vaccine.
- Children 60 months through 18 years people should receive flu vaccine if they have risk conditions or live with people with risk conditions.
- FluMist can be administered to children 5 through 18 years of age through the VFC program

RV (Rotavirus):

- The 1st dose of RV should be initiated from 6 weeks through 12 weeks of age. The ASIIS web application was flagging 1st doses administered during the 12th week. This forecasting issue will be corrected.

PCV7 (Pneumococcal Conjugate):

- Prevnar will be provided in syringes only in the future after our existing quantity of vaccine in vials is depleted.

December Holiday Shipping Schedule

Please order enough vaccine before December 11th to last for 6-8 weeks.

- Last day for submitting vaccine orders in December will be Monday Dec. 11th.
- Last vaccine shipping day is Wednesday, December 13th.
- Limited shipping will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, with return to the regular shipping schedule on January 8th.

Vaccine Management Business Improvement Project (VMBIP) Update

Changes to the vaccine distribution process:

- VMBIP is a project to improve current vaccine management processes at the federal, state and local levels.
- It is planned that the Arizona VFC program will transition into the VMBIP project in 2007.
- Providers may begin receiving vaccine from a different distributor.

Changes to the vaccine ordering process:

- Providers will begin ordering vaccine based on the numbers of doses of vaccine ordered annually and their refrigerator capacity. If a provider's refrigerator capacity is sufficient, the following schedule will be followed: providers ordering 2,000 doses or more will order vaccine monthly, providers ordering 1,000-2,000 doses of vaccine annually will order vaccine every other month, and providers ordering less than 1,000 doses of vaccine annually will order vaccine quarterly. The Vaccine Center will notify providers of their vaccine ordering schedule in the near future.
- A web-based application is being developed for the Arizona State Immunization Information System (ASIIS) to order vaccine for providers that have internet access. Providers may continue to order their vaccine by fax through the Vaccine Center if they do not have internet access. The Vaccine Center will notify providers when they may begin ordering vaccine by the internet application.

If you have questions, please call the VFC Program at (602) 364-3642.

Sincerely,

Cherry Boardman, RN, MSN
Vaccine Center Manager
Arizona Immunization Program Office

Enclosures